

Factors associated with self-reported use of dental health services among older Greek and Italian immigrants

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Reference:

Key Words:

Greek, Italian, oral health, barriers to service use

Research aim:

Utilization of dental health services by older Greek and Italian immigrants in Melbourne, Australia

Results/Conclusion:

Nearly 41 % of Greek and 45 % of Italian respondents had used dental services in the previous year. As barriers to care, Greek participants most often cited waiting lists and waiting time in the office. Italian participants most often identified cost, length of waiting lists and language barriers. Multivariate analyses associated recent use of dental services with number of teeth, oral health knowledge, age and occupation before retirement for both groups, as well as living arrangements among Greek participants and perceived barriers among Italian participants.

Implications:

Findings highlight the need for oral health promotion programs targeted toward older adults from immigrant populations and reductions of the structural barriers that prevent these adults from seeking oral health care.

Cultural Group(s):

Greek, Italian

Location of study:

Victoria (Melbourne)

Age group:

Number included in study:

634; 374 Greeks, 360 Italian

Type of participants:

Greek and Italian adults who received an oral examination

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: